

# Selection components in Delphi

**Combo boxes**

**List boxes**

**Radio groups**

**MAKE A CHOICE**



The List box, combo box and the radio group components allow options to be selected.

### **ADVANTAGES:**

- **ENHANCES THE VISUAL PRESENTATION OF OPTIONS**
- **AUTOMATIC VALIDATION, ONLY A VALID SELECTION CAN BE MADE, PREVENTS THE USER FROM ENTERING AN INVALID VALUE.**
- **OPTIONS CAN BE STRING, NUMBERS, DATES, AND OTHER TYPES  
(MUST BE EXTRACTED AS A STRING AND THEN BE CONVERTED TO THE  
RELEVANT DATA TYPE)**
- **EASY TO EXTRACT AND MANIPULATE DATA USING CODE OR THE  
PROPERTIES IN THE OBJECT INSPECTOR.**

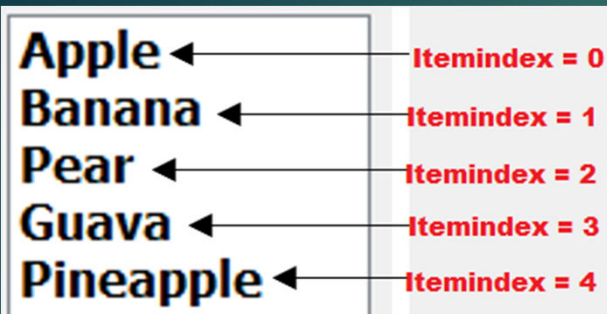


# Common properties to change

- ▶ The **Name property** of the component  
List box prefix: **lst** for example **lstFruit**  
Combo box prefix: **cmb** for example **cmbFruit**  
Radio group: **rgp** for example **rgpFruit**
- ▶ The **Caption property** is used to set the heading for the **Radio group**
- ▶ The **Text property** is used to set the heading for the **Combo box**
- ▶ The **Items** property is used to add items to all three components
- ▶ The **ItemIndex** property is used to point to the position/ index of an item in all three components.

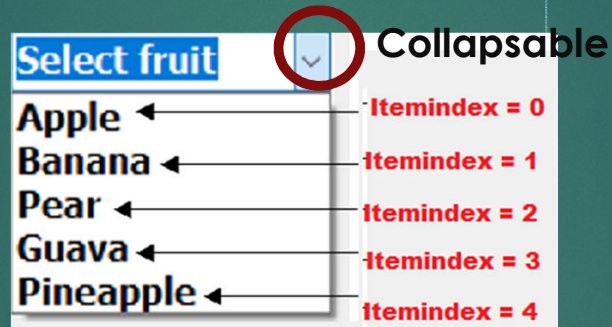
# THE DIFFERENT SELECTION COMPONENTS

## LIST BOX



Name: **lstFruit**

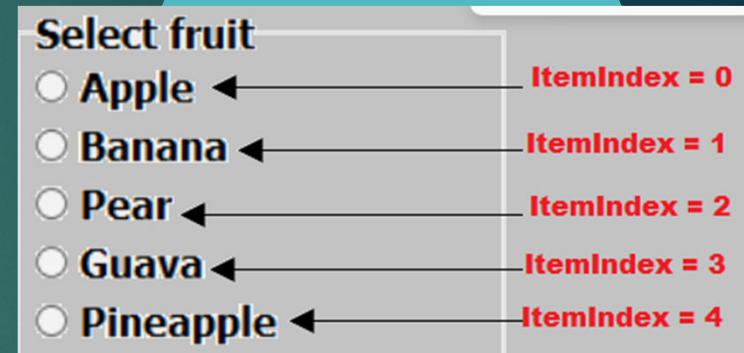
## COMBO BOX



Name: **cmbFruit**

Text: **Select fruit\_**

## RADIO GROUP



Name: **rgpFruit**

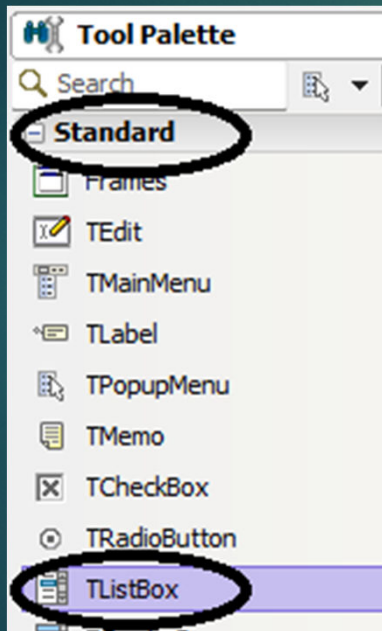
Caption: **Select fruit**



# LIST BOX

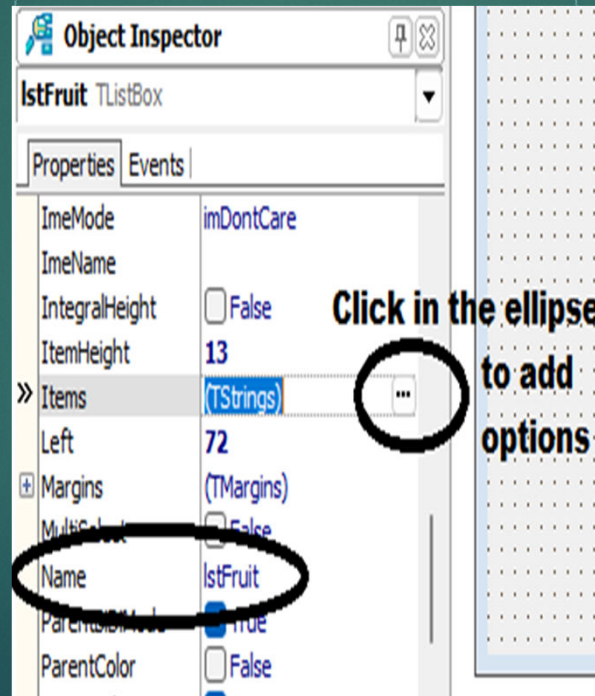
## Step 1

Select a TListBox from the Tool Palette



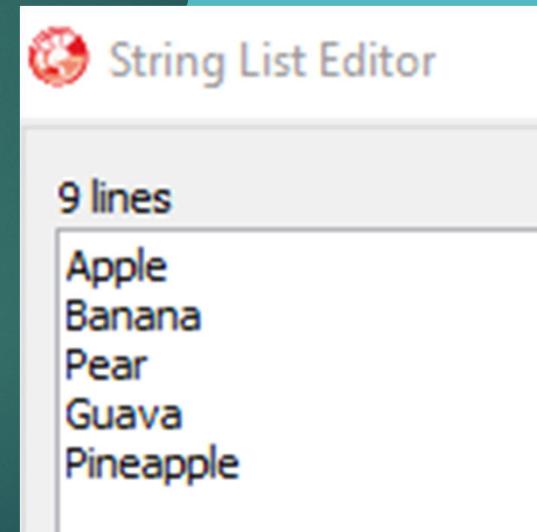
## Step 2

Change the name in the Object Inspector to IstFruit



## Step 3

Select the Items property  
Add options to the String List Editor



# Other properties

## Clear

To clear the list box

```
IstFruit.Items.Clear
```

## Delete

Removes an item at a selected index

```
IstFruit.Items.Delete(2)
```

will delete the third item

## Count

To count the number of options/ items in the list box

```
iNum := IstFruit.Items.Count
```

## Insert

Insert an item to a specified index in the list box

```
IstFruit.Items.Insert(1, 'Peach')
```

will insert Peach in the second position

## Add

Add items to the end of a list box

```
IstFruit.Items.Add('Kiwi')
```

## IndexOf

The index position of an item

```
iPosition := IstFruit.Items.IndexOf('Guava')
```

Will find the position/ index of Guava



# Selection components and text files

## LoadFromFile

- ▶ Populates a list box with options using the data from a text file.
- ▶ For example:
- ▶ `IstFruit.Items.LoadFromFile('Fruit.txt');`
- ▶ Will read the data from the text file Fruit.txt and save the data as options in the list box
- ▶ IstFruit. NB: The text file must be saved in the same folder as the Delphi project.

## SaveToFile

- ▶ Saves the options from the list box into a new text file.
- ▶ For example:
- ▶ `IstMenu.SaveToFile(Menu.txt);`
- ▶ Will save the content/options in the list box IstMenu into a new file Menu.txt. The text file will be saved in the same folder as the Delphi project.

# No selection made

Use the ItemIndex function

- ▶ `iSelectedIndex:= lstFruit.ItemIndex;`  
If `iSelectedIndex = -1` then  
    `Showmessage('No selection');`





**THANK YOU**

